

# Engineering Provides Edge in Litigation



Janice Mitrius

With her varied background in engineering, business, and law, Janice Mitrius (ME '88) has brought a unique blend of educational acumen and work experience to the firm of Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., where she has been employed since 1997 as an attorney concentrating on intellectual property (IP) litigation. Earlier this year, the firm gave Mitrius its highest collective vote of confidence, making her the first female president in Banner & Witcoff's 89-year history.

Although Mitrius is incorporating more management responsibilities into her daily schedule as president, she remains active in litigation and counseling for clients. She credits her years at Armour College of Engineering with giving her an edge in her legal career representing clients such as Allstate Insurance Company, Husky Injection Molding Systems, Ltd., and Kimberly-Clark Corporation.

Mitrius works primarily with utility patents in her litigation practice. Utility patents are used to protect a new invention or a functional improvement made to an existing product. As part of her litigation efforts, Mitrius often interprets the results of product testing and analyses as well as a product's properties and overall structure.

"My knowledge of science and mathematics helps me to understand information on new materials I may not be familiar with," she says. "It also makes it easier to explain aspects of the case in layman's terms to the jury and to the judge."

Extracurricular activities had a hand in her success, literally. "Playing volleyball for four years at IIT helped me to develop and hone important team-oriented skills that are imperative to success in business," says Mitrius, who also acknowledges that the classes she had with Marvin Camras, a pioneer in the field of magnetic recording, set an example for her in later years in helping people obtain patents and enforce their rights.

Mitrius became aware of the IP field and patent law while at IIT and though she was intrigued by the subject, decided to accept a project engineer position at AlliedSignal Engines (now Honeywell), where she stayed for five years. She expanded her career options with an M.B.A., but still felt she needed more from her career. A conversation with Paul

Nykaza (ME '88), who went on to become a patent lawyer, helped Mitrius to redefine her goals and go on for her law degree, which she obtained from Arizona State University.

"Work hard, do good work, and pay attention to the details' is a constant for me," says Mitrius. "This mantra started with my engineering background. In engineering, you cannot gloss over details or things will not work. In the law, the details are equally important."

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## Alumni Travel Program

### Tour the Yangtze in October

Alumni Holidays International and the IIT Alumni Association are offering a tour of China and the Yangtze River. This is a great chance to marvel at Beijing's Imperial Palace and Great Wall, as well as to cruise the scenic Yangtze River. The tour will begin on October 7, 2009, with prices beginning at \$2,950 per person.

More information about the Alumni Travel Program may be found at [www.iit.edu/alumni](http://www.iit.edu/alumni).

# BUCKMINSTER FULLER

## STARTING WITH THE UNIVERSE

MARCH 14-JUNE 21, 2009

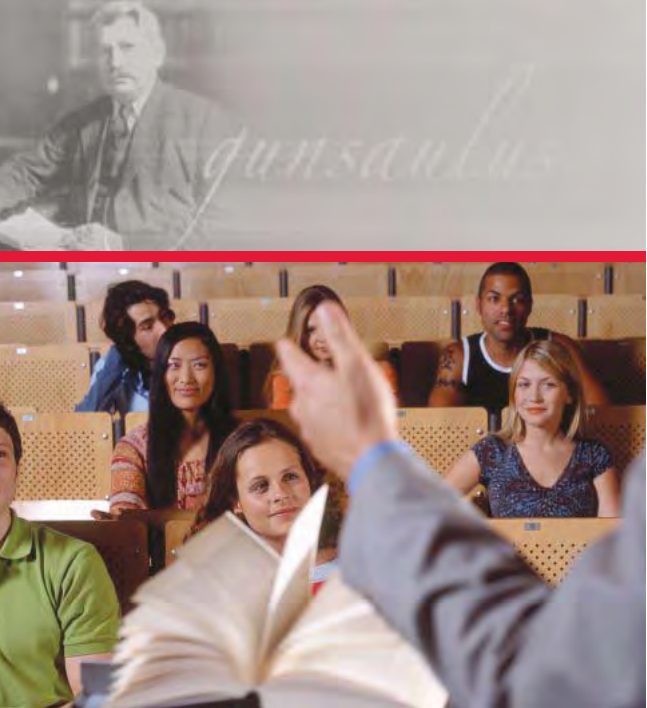
INNOVATOR. SCIENTIST. DESIGNER. ARCHITECT.  
HUMANITARIAN. VISIONARY.

Museum of  
Contemporary  
Art  
CHICAGO  
[mcchicago.org](http://mcchicago.org)

This exhibition is organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, in association with the Department of Special Collections of the Stanford University Libraries.

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OFFICIAL AFFILIATE OF THE  
MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART





alumni**news**

# Velocity *on a roll*

As featured in the last issue of *IIT Magazine*, IIT launched Velocity, a massive alumni reengagement effort, in January. In this initiative, new IIT graduates and current students, serving as Velocity ambassadors, are interviewing IIT alumni across the country about their personal and professional lives, as well as their thoughts on their alma mater. Armed with fresh, in-depth information about what's on the minds of our alumni, IIT plans to direct this information toward more exciting, relevant alumni programming.



In the first three months of Velocity, nearly 300 alumni participated in 45-minute interviews with ambassadors. The best news: 80 percent of the alumni participants want to become more engaged with IIT, whether serving as mentors and guest speakers, planning and attending regional alumni events, or learning more about innovative teaching and research at IIT.

The three full-time alumni ambassadors have been spending time in New York, California, Arizona, Florida, Washington, D.C., and Texas, meeting with an interesting and diverse cross section of IIT alumni. Thirty-two current student ambassadors have been visiting with Chicago-area alumni.

Ralph P. Norris (CE '57) was among the first alumni to be interviewed through Velocity. He says his interview with student Ciaran Shaughnessy (CHE, 2nd year) "restores my faith in the younger generation. Quite amazingly, our educational tracks were very similar. [Ciaran] embraces music with the same fervor as I, as a release from the rigors of engineering."

Watch future issues of *IIT Magazine* for updates on Velocity and participating alumni. For more information, please contact Molly Galo, manager of the Velocity initiative, at 312.567.5065 or mgalo@iit.edu.

● [www.iit.edu/giving/velocity](http://www.iit.edu/giving/velocity)

93% of IIT students would be unable to attend college without scholarship assistance.

Our students rely heavily on the generosity of alumni and friends to achieve their own dreams of an IIT education. In addition to outright gifts, realized estate gifts have made it possible for a significant number of students to receive scholarship awards.

Estate plans from today's Gunsaulus Society members continue to ensure the future availability of scholarship funds. Whether you choose to add to an existing scholarship fund or to establish a named fund of your own, creating a planned gift through your estate will help keep classroom seats filled while leaving a long-term legacy at IIT.

To discuss how to include IIT scholarships in your estate plan, please contact **Catherine Marquis**, director of planned giving, at 312.567.5080 or cmarquis@iit.edu.

GUNSAULUS SOCIETY

# ALUMNI AWARDS

## 2009 Alumni Medal Recipients

*The IIT Alumni Medal is awarded to an individual who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to society through service or support, and who has achieved significant personal and professional success.*

### FRANK CROSSLEY AND ROBERT PRITZKER



Frank Crossley (CHE '45, M.S. MET '47, Ph.D. '50) is a pioneer in the field of titanium metallurgy, and his life achievements have inspired social changes in America that will continue to affect many generations to come. In 1950, at the young age of 25, he became the first person to earn a Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering

at Illinois Institute of Technology. He was also the first person of African ancestry in the world to earn a Ph.D. in metallurgy. During Crossley's military career, he became one of the first African-American officers to serve in the United States Navy, and his success in this leadership role helped convince President Harry Truman to issue the executive order in 1948 desegregating the United States Armed Forces. Crossley's work in the field of titanium metallurgy earned him seven patents, five of which were significant contributions to the aircraft and aerospace industry.



Robert Pritzker (IE '46, Hon. Ph.D. ENG '84) is a world-renowned businessman, philanthropist, and civic leader. He is the chief executive officer and president of Colson Associates, Inc., a group of companies that includes the world's largest wheel and caster company as well as manufacturers of medical devices and hardware products.

Pritzker's service to the Chicago community is legendary, and his philanthropy and leadership have helped shape the city's modern identity and culture. In addition to being one of only three IIT University Regents, Pritzker is a life trustee of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Rush University Medical Center. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in engineering from IIT in 1984 and inducted into the IIT Hall of Fame in 2002.

### ALSO HONORING

#### Alumni Service Award

**Jerry Frank** (M.S. MATH '69, Ph.D. '72)

**Bruce Liimatainen** (ME '77)

**Earl Zwicker** (M.S. PHYS '52, Ph.D. '59)

#### Global Service Award

**Tetsuyuki Hirano** (ARCH '79)

**Timothy Zamb** (BIOL '68, Ph.D. '78)

#### Lifetime Achievement Award

*(awarded posthumously)*

**Richard Bergstrom** (CE '42, M.S. '52)

**Wendell Campbell** (ARCH '56)

**Paul Finfer** (ARCH '60, M.S. CRP '61)

#### Outstanding Young Alumnus/a Award

**Ankit Mehta** (CHE '03)

**William Mustain** (CHE '02, Ph.D. '06)

**Diane Piszczor Rink** (EE '99)

#### Professional Achievement Award

**Prasad Kodukula** (Ph.D. ENVE '84)

**George Langford** (M.S. BIOL '69, Ph.D. '71)

**Aesop Rhim** (M.S. DSGN '70)

**George Schutter III** (ACCT '92)

**Madhava Syamlal** (M.S. CHE '81, Ph.D. '85)

**Nick Thomopoulos** (Ph.D. IE '66)

**Anthony Trozzolo** (CHEM '50)

To learn more about the winners of the 2009 Alumni Awards or to nominate alumni for next year's ceremony, visit [www.iit.edu/alumni](http://www.iit.edu/alumni).



Share Your News!

We want to hear from you! Send us your class note at [alumni@iit.edu](mailto:alumni@iit.edu).

# classnotes

## 1940s

### Herbert S. Levinson

(CE '49), New Haven, Conn., gave the seventh Armour College of Engineering Distinguished Lecture, entitled "Managing Access: Broadening the Perspective," in May 2008.

## 1950s

### C. C. Rila

(Ph.D. CHEM '55), Mount Pleasant, Iowa, has been living in Mount Pleasant for 42 years. He retired from the Iowa Wesleyan College Chemistry Department in 1992 and then worked as a full-time consultant at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant for nine years. He still does some consulting. He enjoys his huge vegetable garden, and last fall went on his fifth Alaskan wilderness canoe trip, to the John River, located nearly 150 miles above the Arctic Circle.

## 1960s

### Joseph C. Benedyk

(MET '61, M.S. '63), Lake Zurich, Ill., was appointed editor in 2007 of *Light Metal Age* magazine, an international trade journal devoted to reporting on technical and business developments in the light metals industry. In January 2008, he also completed and published a chapter on 6061 aluminum alloy for the *Air Force Structural Metals Handbook*. For this article, much of his research data was obtained at the MMAE's Thermal Processing Technology Center, and it included the application of the localized and rapid retrogression heat treatment process that he invented for improving 6061 formability in hard tempers (five United States patents).

### Rudolph J. Dichtl

(EE '61), Boulder, Colo., sends word of the passing of his wife of 48 years, Joan Lottie Smith Dichtl, on September 16, 2008. The two were married while he was a student and Air Force ROTC member at IIT. Joan worked as a secretary in the IIT Department of Chemical Engineering until the birth of their first child in 1961.

### Bhakta B. Rath

(Ph.D. MET '63), Washington, D.C., was conferred with the Padma Bhushan, an Indian civilian decoration that is third in the hierarchy of civilian awards in India. It recognizes distinguished service of a high order to the nation, in any field. Rath is the head of Materials Science and Component Technology Directorate and associate director of research of the Naval Research Laboratory. He has published more than 200 technical papers, has received two publication awards, and has edited and co-edited more than 20 books on diverse topics in materials science and engineering. Rath is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

### Gintaras V. Reklaitis

(CHE '65), West Lafayette, Ind., was named to the National Academy of Engineering in 2007. Reklaitis is the Edward W. Comings Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering at Purdue University and serves on the Advisory Board of the IIT Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

### James S. Nasby

(EE '67), Skokie, Ill., recently resigned from the position of director of engineering at Master Controls and is actively seeking new opportunities to help or assist people or organizations. He has presented numerous seminars and has written articles and co-authored books on fire pumps and controllers. Nasby is also owner of Columbia Engineering.

### Steven B. Poster

(DSGN '67), Virginia Beach, Va., exhibited his black-and-white photography at *Around the Edges*, an exhibition held last June through August at AFP Galleries in New York City. Poster is perhaps best known for work as a cinematographer for the Hollywood studios, where his credits include director of photography for *Someone To Watch Over Me* and *Donny Darko*.

### Kishor M. Kulkarni

(M.S. MAE '68, Ph.D. '72), Carmel, Ind., retired as president of Advanced Metalworking Practices, the company he founded in 1984. The company has produced ready-to-use feedstocks for metal injection molding since 1988.

### Leon J. Hoffman

(M.S. PSYC '69, Ph.D. '70), Chicago, continues to enjoy his thriving private practice of psychology and psychotherapy, and consultation with individuals and groups in the Chicago area. A frequent presenter and writer of articles related to psychology, Hoffman also maintains his active lifelong involvement as a chamber music cellist.

### Peter C. Pran

(M.S. ARCH '69), Lawrence, Kan., and his company, Peter Pran Design, along with NBBJ, was included in *Phaidon Atlas of 21st Century World Architecture* in fall 2008, which includes the best buildings built in the world since 2000, for their work on the Telenor headquarters. The 70-story The Sail at Marina Bay, Singapore, designed by co-design principals Pran and Tim Johnson of NBBJ New York, was completed in February 2009. In fall 2008, this building received the two highest MIPIM Design Awards for Asia.

## 1970s

### Hansraj C. Maru

(M.S. CHE '70, Ph.D. '75), Brookfield, Conn., delivered the plenary address, titled "Where are the Fuel Cells?" at the launch of the IIT Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research in March 2008.

### Dennis J. Bieschke

(MAE '72), Lemont, Ill., joined NetGain Technologies, LLC in 2005. He and the other four owners now have a newly developed patent-pending technology that converts existing gasoline or diesel-fueled vehicles into hybrid vehicles. The EAS system, installed in less than one day, can save 15–25 percent of normal fuel consumption and lower the emissions from the engine.

### Scott W. Petersen

(LAW '72), Chicago, works as an international trademark and copyright counsel with the Chicago office of Holland & Knight. He has been performing for nearly three years in the Chicago production of *Pleading for the Future*, a one-act play based upon the closing arguments in the famous 1924 trial of Leopold and Loeb, at which Clarence Darrow represented the defendants.

### Michael J. Belcher

(Ph.D. PSYC '73), Marion, Ohio, opened the nightclub Marion Crossroads Bar and Restaurant last September.

### Henry T. Kohlbrand

(CHE '73), Midland, Mich., global R&D director of engineering and process sciences in core R&D at The Dow Chemical Company, has been elected president of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). He will assume the role in 2010 after serving a one-year term as president-elect. Kohlbrand is the third alumnus of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering (ChBE) to be elected president of the association. He also serves as the chair of the Advisory Committee for ChBE.

### Stephen B. Ruben

(LAW '73), San Francisco, is serving as a member of the Elkins Family Law Task Force, a commission directed by California Supreme Court Justice Ronald George. The purpose of the task force is to address current family-law practice and court processes and procedures, to ensure access and fairness to all litigants in California. Ruben is a certified family specialist and one of six attorneys in private practice serving on the statewide commission.

**Candace J. Fabri**

(LAW '75), Chicago, was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

**Deborah A. Sperlak**

(LAW '76), Denver, in solo practice concentrating in the area of alternative dispute resolution, served as an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law during the fall semester of 2008. She also coaches student mediators in role-playing situations for the Colorado Bar Association, as well as for the University of Denver University College, the Mountain States Employers Council, and with various individual trainers.

**Ronald A. Stevens**

(LAW '76), Alexandria, Va., is the president of ChangeWays, LLC, a private consulting firm.

**Michael L. Abramson**

(M.S. DSGN '77), Chicago, had his photography showcased in a cover story of the *Chicago Tribune Magazine* in May 2008.

**Pamela E. Loza**

(LAW '77), Palatine, Ill., was elected as a new Cook County Circuit Court judge in the election of November 2008. She will fill the 12th Subcircuit vacated by the Honorable Donald Devlin.

**Kathleen M. McGury**

(LAW '77), Chicago, was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

**Daniel P. O'Sullivan**

(LAW '77), Washington, D.C., is the deputy sergeant at arms for the United States Senate. The office provides security for the members, guests, and visitors to the Senate and commands a security force of approximately 1,000 officers. He and his wife, Diane, and their two dogs live in Washington, D.C.

**Roger Retzlaff**

(ARCH '77), Shorewood, Wisc., joined Berners-Schober Associates, Inc. in Green Bay as a project architect. Retzlaff is registered in the state of Illinois. One of his recent notable projects was the exterior detailing for the Milwaukee Art Museum.

**Michael J. Gallagher**

(LAW '78), Chicago, was retained as an Illinois 1st District Appellate Court judge in the election of November 2008.

**Suellen M. Kelley-Bergerson**

(LAW '78), Evergreen Park, Ill., is celebrating the recent birth of her first grandson, Braedan Kelley, to her daughter, Mary Clare, and the upcoming wedding of her son, Martin Dugan, to Sarah Harrigan, a Buffalo, N.Y., native.

**Susan O'Leary**

(LAW '78), Joliet, Ill., was retained as a judge in Will County in the election of November 2008.

**Kazimer Ignarski**

(CS '79), Orland Park, Ill., co-authored a book about the Chicago Cubs, *Cubs By the Numbers* (March 2009). The book is a complete history of the Cubs since 1932, when the team first wore uniform numbers; each chapter is about the players who wore a specific number.

## 1980s

**Ronald B. Schwartz**

(LAW '80), Deerfield, Ill., a former faculty member of the IIT Chicago-Kent Legal Clinic, is an employment law lawyer at Katz, Friedman.

**David W. Kash**

(LAW '81), Scottsdale, Ariz., was appointed to the Foundation Board of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), where he also is the chairman of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee. He is leading his committee to develop the IADC International ADR Academy, planned to be held in Chicago in November 2009.

**Alice K. Kush**

(LAW '81), Ottawa, Ill., is now vice president and general counsel of Ottawa Regional Hospital and Health System.

**Shelley L. Sutker-Dermer**

(LAW '82), Skokie, Ill., was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

**Anne M. Burke**

(LAW '83), Chicago, was retained as an Illinois State Supreme Court judge in the election of November 2008.

**Gary C. Cathey**

(CE '83), Sacramento, Calif., was appointed as chief of the Division of Aeronautics of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

**Katherine S. Dedrick**

(LAW '83), Hinsdale, Ill., was named among the 2008 "Women to Watch" by *Business Insurance Magazine*.

**Joseph R. Lopez**

(LAW '83), Chicago, celebrates the recent birth of his son, Rocco. Lopez also appeared in *Marquis Who's Who in American Law* for the third year.

**Michael Plesniak**

(ME '83, M.S. '84), Washington, D.C., professor of engineering and applied science, and chair of The George Washington University's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, was named a fellow of the American Physical Society.

**William T. O'Brien**

(LAW '84), Skokie, Ill., was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

**David J. Pyrcce**

(M.B.A. '84), Murrieta, Calif., was named as chief executive officer and member of the Board of Directors of Nexsun Corp, a leader in renewable energy and biofuels development and production.

**Edward A. Arce**

(LAW '85), Markham, Ill., was elected as a new Cook County Circuit Court judge in the election of November 2008.

**Anita M. Alvarez**

(LAW '86), River Forest, Ill., was elected as Cook County state's attorney in the election of November 2008.

**Margaret A. Brennan**

(LAW '87), Indianhead Park, Ill., was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

**Major R. Coleman**

(LAW '87), St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, received the Attorney General's Special Commendation Award for his service in Iraq. The award honored his work as resident legal advisor to the Law and Order Task Force in Rusafa, Iraq. Coleman currently serves as Assistant United States Attorney.

**Steven A. Lee**

(LAW '87), Westfield, N.J., was recently admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court through the sponsorship of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

**John Noverini**

(LAW '87), Carpentersville, Ill., was elected as a new Circuit Court judge in Kane County in the election of November 2008.

**Abbey F. Romanek**

(LAW '87), Wilmette, Ill., is running for the position of judge in the 9th Subcircuit. The primary is in February 2010.

**Laura M. Sullivan**

(LAW '87), Oak Lawn, Ill., was retained as a judge in Cook County Circuit Court, having served since 2002, in the election of November 2008.

**Cynthia B. Lafuente**

(LAW '88), Wilmette, Ill., has joined the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, the bi-partisan, bi-camera group that advises Congress on tax legislation and advises the Senate on proposed income tax treaties.

**MAJOR KEY**  
For a complete list of abbreviations for IIT's academic majors, visit [www.iit.edu/magazine](http://www.iit.edu/magazine).

## Janice V. Mitrius

(ME '88), Westchester, Ill., was elected as the first woman president of Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., a leading intellectual property law firm.

## Barrett F. Pedersen

(LAW '89), Franklin Park, Ill., was a candidate for mayor of Franklin Park in the April 2009 election.

## Peter J. Roskam

(LAW '89), Wheaton, Ill., was retained as an Illinois Congressman, representing the 6th District, in the election of November 2008.

## 1990s

### Everette James

(LAW '90, M.B.A. '90), Harrisburg, Pa., was confirmed as Pennsylvania health secretary.

### Eileen M. O'Neill-Burke

(LAW '90), Chicago, was elected as a new Cook County Circuit Court judge in the election of November 2008.

### Patricia S. Kocour

(LAW '91), Chicago, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Illinois Society of Trial Lawyers.

### Mark M. Burden

(LAW '92), Chicago, was named among the top attorneys in Illinois for 2009 by *Illinois Super Lawyers* magazine and was featured in the February issue of *Chicago Magazine*. Only five percent of the lawyers in the state are named by *Super Lawyers*.



## Masud A. Kushabi

(ARCH '93), Evanston, Ill., married Margo Schaefer in August 2008.

## Christopher E. Tracy

(LAW '93), Kalamazoo, Mich., joined the firm Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, LLP (Honigman) as a partner in its litigation department.

## Ursula H. Walowski

(LAW '93), Chicago, was elected as a new Cook County Circuit Court judge in the election of November 2008.

## Scott W. Johnston

(LAW '94), Minneapolis, Minn., was named one of the "Top 50 IP Attorneys Under 45" in the May 2008 issue of *IP Law & Business*. He and his wife, Brigitt Orfield, welcomed a new baby to their family.

## Julie M. Nichols Matthews

(LAW '94), Chicago, was named as a partner at Wildman, Harrold, Allen, and Dixon, LLP.

## Kathleen M. McDonough

(LAW '94), Chicago, was named among the top attorneys in Illinois for 2009 by *Illinois Super Lawyers* magazine.

## Daniel Seltzer

(LAW '94), Oak Park, Ill., accepted a fellowship position at the Center for Bioethics, Science, and Society at Northwestern University.

## Valerie L. Mason-Robinson

(CHE '97), Piscataway, N.J., launched the natural, eco-friendly skincare line, Eden Organix, of which she is also chief executive officer.



## Charles Bezerra

(Ph.D. DSGN '00), Sao Paulo, Brazil, published the book *The Humble Designer: Logic and Ethics for Innovation in Brazil* (Rosari), which covers many aspects of design, including multidisciplinary perspectives, problem identification, methodology, and sustainability. Bezerra and Motorola won the 2008 IDEA/Brazil Award for MotoID, an application for Motorola cellular telephones.

## Dorothy A. Brown

(LAW '96), Chicago, was retained as clerk of Cook County Circuit Court in the election of November 2008.

## Karen M. Lynch Calton

(LAW '97), Washington, D.C., celebrated the birth of twin daughters Katherine and Caroline in April 2008.

## Karen S. Coffey

(LAW '98), Chicago, became a foster parent in November 2008.

## Tanye Harrison

(CHE '99), Chicago, was named as the managing director of the IIT Career Management Center.

## Athar A. Khan

(EE '99), Chicago, married Denise Alameddine in August 2008.

## Thomas Poulos

(M.A.S. STE '99), Park Ridge, Ill., was promoted from vice president/principal to senior vice president/principal of Thornton Tomasetti, a company providing structural design, building evaluation, and remediation to optimize building efficiency and performance.

## 2000s

### Cameron B. Clark

(LAW '00), Chicago, was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association and was selected as a Leading Illinois Attorney in the area of workers' compensation law.

## John H. Gountanis

(LAW '00), Naperville, Ill., was recently promoted to deputy chief counsel at the United States Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Office of the Chief Counsel located in Chicago.

## Brent R. Gustafson

(LAW '00), Chicago, and his wife, Heather, welcomed their first child in February 2009.

## Michele S. Katz

(LAW '00), Chicago, is now a partner with the firm Husch Blackwell Sanders Welsh & Katz. She also won the Corporate Woman of Achievement award in 2008 from the National Association of Women Business Owners.

## Joshua R. More

(LAW '00), Chicago, was just elevated to partner at Schiff Hardin, LLP. He and his wife are expecting a third child in June.

## David J. Mulvihill

(LAW '00, LL.M. FS '05), Chicago, recently accepted a position as assistant general counsel with Bank of America (BOA) following BOA's acquisition of his former employer, Chicago-based LaSalle Bank Corporation.

## Kristyna C. Ryan

(LAW '00), Oak Park, Ill., was elected as a new Cook County Circuit Court judge in the election of November 2008.

## Leanne M. Striegel-Baker

(LAW '00), Des Moines, Iowa, was married in November 2008.

## Shital H. Thakkar

(LAW '00), Oak Lawn, Ill., and his wife, Lisa, celebrated the birth of their son Kaden in March 2008.

## Jerome J. Chiecchio

(AE '01), Atlanta, and Professor David Williams, with the input of Professor Emeritus John Way, found and photographed the Richat Structure in the Sahara Desert last May.

## Inga Kacevska

(LL.M. LAW '01), Riga, Latvia, opened the Law Office of Inga Kacevska in April 2008.

## Tina G. Stavrou

(LAW '01), Washington, D.C., accepted a position as assistant general counsel with the North American Securities Administrators Association.

## Eric T. Harstad

(LAW '02), Boston, and his wife, Liz, celebrated the birth of their first child, Nora, in April 2008.

## Jamie L. Ryan

(LAW '02), Riverside, Ill., was recently named as a Rising Star for 2009 by *Illinois Super Lawyers* magazine. She and her husband, James Wideikis (LAW '02), celebrated the birth of their baby girl, Angela, in September 2008.

# Your gift helps keep the lights on.

Give a little or give a lot.

Either way, you're helping generate bright ideas.

You don't need a fortune to make a meaningful gift to IIT.

Thousands of alumni make annual gifts to the IIT Fund in support of scholarships, laboratories, and, yes, even the cost of energy-efficient light bulbs to keep our students out of the dark.

Whether it's \$10, \$100, or \$1,000, your annual gift helps students make new discoveries and hit on the kind of bright ideas

that IIT grads are known for. Visit [www.iit.edu/giving](http://www.iit.edu/giving)

or call Jason Smith at 312.567.7112 to learn

more about supporting IIT students

through the IIT Annual Fund.

Give a little or give a lot.

Either way,  
you're transforming lives.



Taylor, first-year psychology major

Trey, third-year architecture major

## Neil E. Jenkins

(M.S. FM '03), Kenilworth, Ill., was named to the Board of Directors of the Shivas Irons Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing members with opportunities for community, discovery, and transformation through golf.

## Dirk Pauli

(LL.M. LAW '03), Stuttgart, Germany, is a senior associate at CMS Hasche Sigle, a leading German law firm.

## Angie S. Rhee

(LAW '03), Chicago, was elected to the Board of Directors of SmithGroup, one of the nation's leading architecture, engineering, interiors, and planning firms.

## Cindy S. Stuyvesant

(LAW '03), Chicago, married her husband, George, on September 20, 2008, and continues to practice at Vedder Price in Chicago.

## Traci P. Nixon

(M.P.A. '07), Chicago, was recently hired as a vocational coordinator and qualified mental retardation professional by Easter Seals.

## Brandon D. Lloyd

(AE '08), Houston, is engaged to Jenna Jones.

## Rachel H. Solomon

(LAW '08), Studio City, Calif., became engaged to her fiancé, Mark, an orthopedic resident at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, in fall 2008.

## Taeho Wang

(DSGN '08), Republic of Korea, and Min-Joong Kim (DSGN '09) won second place in the Microsoft/IDSA Next-Gen PC Design Competition, for WITHUS, a computer helping preschool children shape values and human relationships by encouraging them to play and learn through multi-user interactions.



**AICHE Conference Reception**

IIT alumni, friends, and faculty at the IIT alumni reception in conjunction with the 2008 American Institute of Chemical Engineers conference in Philadelphia



**AITU Alumni Reception**

[Left to right] Brad C. Krygier (MGT '80), Diane Krygier, Pat Anderson, and IIT President John Anderson at the Association of Independent Technological Universities IIT alumni reception in Orlando, Fla.



**A Day at the Races**

Marian Marum and Robert Mellott (ARCH '69) at the Southern California Chapter alumni event A Day at the Races at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club



**IIT<sup>10</sup> Wine Class**

IIT<sup>10</sup> alumni and friends practice aerating and swirling wine during the IIT<sup>10</sup> wine class and tasting event in S. R. Crown Hall.



**CAEE Networking Dinner**

[Left to right] William Lavicka (CE '67), Kenneth Johnson (CE '67), and Robert Johnson (CE '69, M.S. '71) at the 10th annual civil, architectural, and environmental engineering networking dinner



**Seattle Mariners Game**

Luke Ransom and Scott Ransom (EE '91, M.S. '95) at the Seattle Mariners game at the IIT Seattle Chapter alumni event at Safeco Field

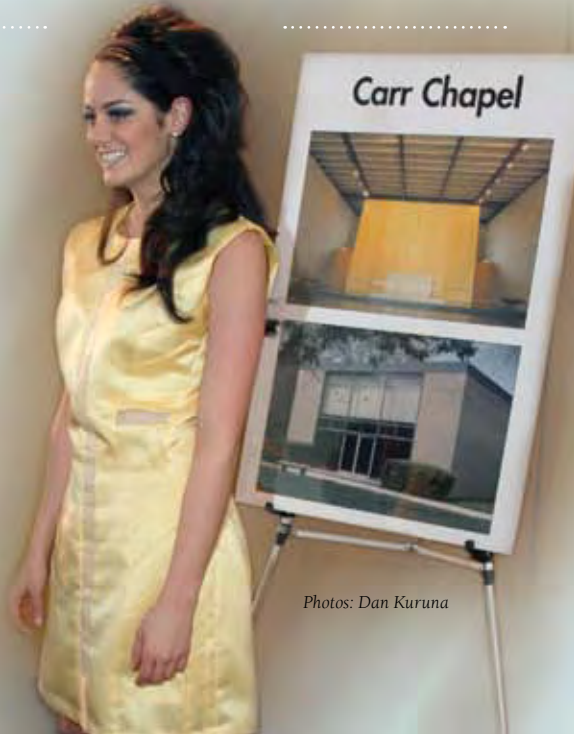


**Mies' 123rd Birthday Party**

[Left to right] Justine Jentes (director of the Mies Society), model showing dress inspired by Dirk Denison Architects' Culver House (Dirk S. Denison, ARCH '83, M.B.A. '85), and Chandra Goldsmith Gray (adjunct faculty, landscape architecture)



Ron Krueck (ARCH '70) with model and IIT staff member Lisa Christiano, wearing a dress inspired by the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies



Dress design inspired by Carr Memorial Chapel, the current restoration project of the Mies van der Rohe Society

Photos: Dan Kuruna

# Upcoming Alumni Events

For information about upcoming alumni events listed below and other alumni activities, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 312.567.5040 or alumni@iit.edu.

## Nate Thomas Tribute Event

**Saturday, June 27, 2009**

IIT Main Campus  
Chicago



*This special event honors Nate Thomas, who served at IIT for 22 years in various staff positions and was responsible for greatly increasing first-year student enrollment in the 1970s and '80s. His innovative*

*and spirited recruitment work was instrumental in increasing the number of African-American and Hispanic students who enrolled and graduated from IIT and went on to become successful professionals. Members of IIT's Black Alumni will also host a reception. For more information about this event, please visit [www.iit.edu/alumni](http://www.iit.edu/alumni).*

## Northern California Alumni Chapter Event

**July 2009**

San Francisco

## Southern California Alumni Chapter Event

**July 2009**

Encino, Calif.

## White Sox vs. Detroit Tigers Alumni Lunch

**August 2009**

Detroit Regional Alumni Chapter

Detroit

## Jimmy Fig's

160 North Franklin Street  
Chicago

*Join other Chicago-area alumni every second Thursday of the month for our Thirsty Thursday events from 4–7 p.m.*



### Upcoming dates

June 11, 2009

July 9, 2009

August 13, 2009

September 10, 2009

October 8, 2009

## Career Fair

**Thursday, September 17, 2009**

IIT Main Campus  
Chicago

*The Career Management Center is hosting the fall Career Fair. Companies in the areas of engineering, science, business, psychology, architecture, and liberal arts are looking to talk to potential candidates regarding co-op, internship, and full-time employment opportunities. If your employer is interested in being a part of the Career Fair, please contact ReLandra Lindsey at 312.567.6490 or online through the Career Management Center website at [www.cmc.iit.edu](http://www.cmc.iit.edu). All alumni are welcome to participate.*

## Alumni Awards Nominations Due

**Friday, October 16, 2009**

*Do you know of an outstanding accomplished alumnus or alumna? If so, nominate him or her for one of the 2010 IIT Alumni Awards. Nominations are due on October 16, 2009. Information about how to nominate an individual for one of the awards can be found at <http://alumni.iit.edu/awards>.*

## Fifth Annual Pumpkin Launch

**October 2009**

IIT Main Campus

Chicago

## IIT Lecture

**October 2009**

Detroit Regional Alumni Chapter

Detroit

## Biomedical Engineering Alumni Reception

**Wednesday–Friday, October 7–9, 2009**

*In conjunction with the Biomedical Engineering Society annual meeting*  
Pittsburgh

## Alumni Holiday International Alumni Campus Abroad Program

**Wednesday, October 7, 2009**

China and the Yangtze River

# Homecoming

## September 2009

Homecoming weekend brings alumni and students together to celebrate their lifelong connection to IIT. If you have not visited IIT in recent years, this is the perfect opportunity to see the many changes to its landmark campus. Join IIT students in showing your school spirit, and rediscover the traditions that made your time at IIT memorable. Homecoming activities include the following:

### Golden Alumni Society Reunion

The Golden Alumni Society recognizes alumni who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation from IIT. Members of the Class of 1959 will receive their Golden Alumni Society medallions, be recognized for this anniversary milestone, and have a chance to visit with President John Anderson.

### IIT Former Varsity Athlete Alumni Reunion

Former players from IIT varsity athletic teams are invited to come back to campus, see old teammates, and watch the former players from the men's baseball teams scrimmage against the current varsity team.

### IIT<sup>10</sup> Party in the Bog

Join other graduates from the past 10 years (earlier graduates are welcome, too) in the campus bar and recreation area. There will be entertainment and snacks, and the first couple of drinks are on us.

### Family Fun Carnival

Bring the whole family to a carnival with rides, games, and the annual golf cart parade. Meet current students, visit with old friends, and spend time with your family.

### Barbecue lunch and more!

Please keep an eye on your email and your mail for more Homecoming information in the next few months. If you are interested in volunteering your time at this year's event, please contact **Dylan Easley** at alumni@iit.edu or at 800.IIT.ALUM (448.2586).

## Daniel Koblick

Department of Biology  
(Department of Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences)  
Chicago



Daniel Koblick led a distinguished life in both science and music. At Illinois Institute of Technology, he served as associate professor of physiology from 1963–1991 and taught in the Science and Mathematics Initiative for Learning Enhancement for several summer terms. Before coming to IIT, Koblick held a variety of positions at what is now San Francisco State University, as well as at the University of Oregon (UO),

the University of Missouri–Columbia, and the University of California Berkeley. Koblick received his undergraduate degree from Berkeley in 1944 and his doctorate from UO in 1957.

Upon his retirement from IIT, Koblick gave his full attention to his avocation—music—earning a master’s degree in musicology from Roosevelt University and pursuing advanced studies in that field at the Sorbonne and the University of Chicago. Years earlier, Koblick studied piano and conducting, and played viola with the San Francisco Youth Symphony Orchestra. He also played viola with the Hyde Park Chamber Orchestra and the University of Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Koblick is survived by Joan Lesser Koblick, his wife of 48 years, two daughters, a granddaughter, a sister, and a brother.

## Rodolfo M. Soria

Ph.D. EE '47  
Kents Hill, Maine

After receiving bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rodolfo Soria went on to obtain his doctorate in electrical engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1947. He was employed at the Amphenol-Borg/Bunker-Ramo Corporation, one of the largest interconnect product companies in the world, and rose to the position of vice president of research and development. Soria was widely recognized for his scientific contributions and was named a fellow of the Institute of Technical Scientists in 1958.

Upon retiring to Maine, Soria continued his involvement with the Unitarian Universalist Church and enjoyed many cultural opportunities. He is survived by many family members, including Faith, his wife of nearly 61 years, two sons, a daughter, and two grandsons.

## Lionel Shub

EE '48  
Williamsville, N.Y.

Lionel Shub spent his entire career at Bell Aerospace, where he served as chief engineer of the company’s Advanced Systems, Niagara Frontier Operations, from 1949–1987. After earning his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1948, Shub went on to obtain a master’s degree from the University of Illinois and did a year of postgraduate study at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Shub was very active in his community, holding leadership roles within the Service Corps of Retired Executives, counseling older persons in tax matters, and serving on the board of the Amherst Senior Center Foundation. Shub is survived by his wife, Ann Lyon Shub, and other family members.

# obituaries

## James S. Peters II

M.S. PSYC '52  
Storrs, Conn.



One of James Peters’ proudest moments was in 2005, when Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell nominated him as one of the first 10 inductees in the state’s newly established Veterans’ Hall of Fame. The induction honored work Peters did during World War II that brought about the end of segregation in the United States Navy in 1945, three years before the other armed forces were mandated to do so. He conducted this work at

Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois.

After the war, Peters served as a counselor for Chicago’s Veterans Administration and obtained a master’s degree in psychology from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1952. Peters attended IIT during the tenures of Philip Shurrager, chair of the Department of Psychology, and his wife, Harriet, professor of psychology, both of whom Peters credited for his warm welcome and excellent experience during a time when other universities in the Chicago area were not as welcoming to African-American students. Two years after graduating from IIT, Peters obtained a doctorate from Purdue University.

He was appointed director of the State of Connecticut vocational rehabilitation program in 1957. Twenty-five years later, Peters retired from his position with the state as deputy commissioner of education and established a private practice in psychology. In addition to being the first African American to receive a faculty appointment at Springfield College, Peters held faculty positions at the University of Hartford, the University of Connecticut, and Southern Illinois University. The author of 30 books on a wide variety of subjects of professional and personal interest, Peters also served on the boards of several community organizations, including the Greater Hartford Urban League, which he helped to found. Peters returned to IIT in April 2006 at the age of 89, with his daughter, Kimberly, to attend the 40th anniversary of the Division of Rehabilitation Counseling.

Peters was preceded in death by his wife, Marie Ferguson Peters. He is survived by two daughters, one son, four grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

## James F. Quetsch

LAW '59  
Geneva, Ill.

James Quetsch began his practice of law in Chicago, where he worked for four years before joining the law firm of Gates Clancy in Geneva and then Corrigan & MacKay in Wheaton. Several years later, and with a solid reputation as a trial lawyer, Quetsch became a partner in the expanded firm of Corrigan, MacKay, Quetsch, and O’Reilly. From 1975 to his retirement in 1994, Quetsch advanced in a series of judgeship roles, from his appointment as a Kane County Court associate judge to his election to full judge of the 16th Judicial Court. In 1992, Quetsch was promoted to Illinois Appellate Court Justice in the Second District.

Quetsch is survived by Patricia Quetsch, his wife of 52 years, four daughters, two sons, 10 grandchildren, a great-grandson, a sister, a brother, and his cherished dog.

## William A. Nash

CE '44, M.S. MECH '46  
South Hadley, Mass.



As a structural researcher at the Bethesda Naval Institute from 1953–57, William Nash participated in a unique experience: the deepest recorded (and still classified) naval dive and reverse engineering operation of recovered Soviet submarines off the coast of Norway. In addition to his work at the naval institute, Nash served as a research engineer at the Naval Ship Research and Development Center in Washington, D.C.

A Chicago native, Nash attended Roger C. Sullivan High School. After graduating from IIT, where he was valedictorian in 1944, Nash went on to obtain a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan before joining the faculty of the University of Notre Dame. He continued his academic career at the University of Florida, where he headed and served on the faculty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering from 1958–1967. He then joined the faculty of the University of Massachusetts, where he was professor of mechanical and civil engineering from 1967–1995. He also was an honorary professor of engineering at Shanghai University of Science and Technology for his work on seismology. Throughout his career, Nash served as a consultant to the military, Lockheed International, General Electric, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Nash authored the engineering textbook *Strength of Materials*, which sold more than 1 million copies in nine languages, and founded and edited the *International Journal of Non-Linear Mechanics*. Among the awards he received were the Curtis W. McGraw Research Award, the Alexander von Humboldt Award, and in 2006, the IIT Distinguished Alumni Award.

Nash is survived by Verna Nash, his wife of 55 years, a son, a daughter, and five grandchildren.

# in memoriam

**George W. Boucek**  
LAW '33  
Milwaukee, Wisc.

**Earl W. Gosswiller**  
ME '34  
Westmont, Ill.

**Chedo P. Graham**  
CE '35  
Deerfield, Ill.

**John J. Lannon**  
LL.B. LAW '37  
Glen Ellyn, Ill.

**Nils K. Anderson**  
CHE '38  
Ozark, Mo.

**Liberty B. Dvorak**  
LAW '39  
Riverside, Ill.

**Norman A. Freeman**  
LAW '40  
Naples, Fla.

**Leonhard W. Holmboe**  
EE '41  
Roscoe, Ill.

**Michael W. Larinoff**  
ME '41  
Trinity, Fla.

**Edward W. Ruhe**  
ME '41  
Carefree, Ariz.

**Ben T. Prather**  
ME '42  
Barrington, Ill.

**Bert W. McClenaghan**  
ME '43  
Portage, Mich.

**Raymond H. Schultz**  
ME '43  
Grand Junction, Colo.

**Leroy Simpson**  
ME '43  
State College, Pa.

**Edward B. Ahlers**  
ME '44  
Chicago

**James P. Barris**  
CE '44  
Northbrook, Ill.

**Michel A. Coccia**  
IE '44  
Phelps, Wisc.

**William R. Atchison**  
ME '45  
Greensboro, N.C.

**John J. Schilf**  
CHE '46  
Gulf Breeze, Fla.

**Henry J. Gens**  
EE '47  
Chicago

**Constantine N. Kangles**  
LAW '47  
Chicago

**Glenn M. Neiswander**  
ME '47  
Ada, Ohio

**Robert D. Teasdale**  
M.S. EE '47, Ph.D. '49  
Fullerton, Calif.

**Bernard M. Brenner**  
EE '48  
Alamo, Calif.

**Robert H. Waghorne**  
CHE '48  
Baton Rouge, La.

**Henry J. Barten**  
M.S. MECH '49  
Gainesville, Fla.

**Joseph F. Oles**  
ME '49  
Canton, Ohio

**Harry E. Ritter**  
ME '49  
Rockford, Ill.

**Richard W. Smith**  
ME '49  
Lakeland, Fla.

**Edmund M. Burke**  
ARCH '50  
Orland Park, Ill.

**Robert E. Cronin**  
LAW '50  
Chicago

**Robert M. Grossmann**  
LAW '50  
Burr Ridge, Ill.

**James D. Josephs**  
CE '50  
Port Charlotte, Fla.

**Harry W. Lamberty**  
EE '50  
Orlando, Fla.

**Clifford Mock**  
ME '50  
Maywood, Ill.

**Jack T. Castronovo**  
CE '51  
Sugar Grove, Ill.

**Gregg A. Hunter**  
LAW '51  
Northbrook, Ill.

**Joseph S. Scott**  
CHEM '51  
Lombard, Ill.

**Dorman W. Arnold**  
PHYS '52  
Fayetteville, N.Y.

**Rex E. Beach**  
ME '52  
Lubbock, Texas

**Laurence J. White**  
CHE '52  
Brunswick, Maine

**Wayne C. Wiechmann**  
EE '52  
Wheaton, Ill.

**Alfred C. Kengott**  
ME '53  
North Fort Myers, Fla.

**Donald Paul**  
Ph.D. PSYC '54,  
LAW '74  
Highland Park, Ill.

**Shelbert L. Smith**  
M.S. CHEM '54  
Yellow Springs, Ohio

**George W. Falk**  
M.S. CHE '55  
Prospect, Ky.

**John A. Hertzman**  
DSGN '55  
Raleigh, N.C.

**Joseph D. Martini**  
IE '55  
Ottawa, Ill.

**Leonard Edelson**  
LL.B. LAW '57  
Northbrook, Ill.

**Gohl E. Hutter**  
CE '57  
Yorkville, Ill.

**Maurits C. Blomberg**  
ME '58  
Naperville, Ill.

**Merrill J. Foote**  
IE '59  
Dallas, Texas

**Paul J. Yaunt**  
LING '59  
Palm Springs, Calif.

**Robert R. Halverson**  
EE '60  
Lake Oswego, Ore.

**Mark E. Carpenter**  
EE '61  
Birmingham, Ala.

**William P. Fearer**  
LAW '61  
Oregon, Ill.

**William Mitchell**  
ME '61  
Bloomington, Ind.

**Irvine J. Solomon**  
Ph.D. CHEM '62  
Buffalo Grove, Ill.

**Earl G. Westerling**  
ME '62  
Placentia, Calif.

**Stanley J. Solak**  
ME '64  
Riverdale, Ill.

**Alan I. Stiefel**  
IE '65  
Denver

**Edward V. Mulcrone**  
M.P.A. '68  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

**Frank B. Harding**  
M.S. PSYC '69,  
Ph.D. '71  
Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

**George P. Shallcross**  
LAW '70  
Willowbrook, Ill.

**Diane M. Sears**  
M.S. SOCT '71  
Woodstock, Ill.

**Kenneth C. Crocco**  
ARCH '75  
Harvard, Ill.

**Wayne A. Strahl**  
ECON '78  
Carney, Mich.

**Timothy J. Smith**  
ME '85, M.B.A. '94  
Plainfield, Ill.

**Dolores Erickson**  
LAW '88  
Carmel, Calif.

**Denise Lizen**  
LAW '88  
Frankfort, Ill.

**Michael G. Gaydos**  
CHEM '89  
Garden Prairie, Ill.

**John Pender**  
ME '92  
Oak Lawn, Ill.

**Jeanette M. Riel**  
LAW '01  
Mokena, Ill.

**James R. Stark**  
M.S. CS '04  
Naperville, Ill.

**Adam J. Benish**  
MSE '07  
Joliet, Ill.

**George C. Olson**  
Warrenville, Ill.

**James W. Armsey**  
IIT Director of Public  
Relations 1947–1952  
Urbana, Ill.

**John J. Budz**  
Former IIT Staff  
Member  
Armstrong Creek, Wisc.

**Harold Burnstein**  
University Friend  
Highland Park, Ill.

**Lee King**  
Attendee/Non-degree  
Evanston, Ill.

**Samuel A. Palumbo**  
Faculty Member  
Naperville, Ill.